



DATE OF DEPOSIT: 6-5-00

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Nancy Hamman
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5 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Kurt Clement
Application No.: 09/518,787
10 Filed: March 3, 2000
Title: SOFTWARE DISTRIBUTION METHOD AND APPARATUS

15 Examiner: not yet known
Art Unit: 2768
Atty. Docket No.: 99.03776

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Assistant Commissioner:
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Please preliminarily amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of distributing software with a computer system to a
user comprising the acts of:
3 recording data on a fixed medium in the computer system;
4 providing for transfer of the computer system to the user; and
5 controlling access to the data through computer executable code that requires
6 authorization for continued access to the data by automatically:
7 detecting access to the data by the user, and
8 querying the user's account, and if permission to continued access is verified,
9 then enabling continued access to the data.